

REMARKS

In reply to the Office Action of February 26, 2004, applicant submits the following remarks.

Claims 1-25 are pending, with claims 1 and 14 being independent. Claims 1 and 14 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

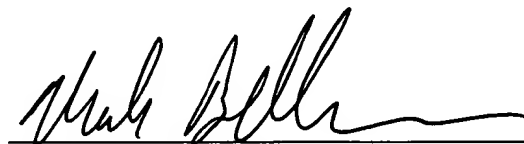
Claims 1-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. The Examiner states that "in claim 1, lines 8, 10, and 12, the phrase 'enclose the conduit' is unclear whether applicant intended first, second and third members are enclosed entire of the conduit or different portions of the conduit." However, the Examiner states that "[c]laims 1-25 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s)"

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's statement of allowable subject matter in claims 1-25. Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 14 to address the Examiner's concern and submits that the claims are now in allowable form.

No fees are believed to be due at this time. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 08215-441001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/26/04



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